

Response to Amendment

1. The claim amendments filed on 04/16/2008 have been entered.
2. The substitute specification filed on 01/08/2008 has been entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Curran on Tuesday June 24, 2008.

4. The application has been amended as follows:

The substitute specification filed on 01/08/2008 at page 13 line 26 has been amended by changing "diagram.at" to -- diagram at --;

Claim 53 at line 15 has been amended by changing "the copying" to -- the copying of -- and claim 53 at line 22 has been amended by deleting the first occurrence of "of" such that line 22 now reads "said second of said state diagrams"; and

Claim 55 at line 1 has been amended by adding "memory" before --medium--.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 48, 53, 54, and 55:

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest determining the differences between two block diagram models (for claim 53-state diagrams), categorizing the difference between the two block diagram models (for claim 53-state diagrams) as functional and graphical, copying all of the functional differences from one diagram and inserting the copied all of the functional differences into a second diagram of the two diagrams, copying less than all of the graphical differences from one diagram and inserting the copied less than all of the graphical differences into the second diagram, and displaying on the display surface at least a portion of the second diagram after inserting the copied functional differences and graphical differences into the second diagram where the displaying the at least a portion displays at least some of the copied functional differences and the graphical differences.

Claim 51:

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest determining the differences between two block diagram models, merging differences copied from one of the block diagram models to a second of the two block diagram models, determining a distance on the display surface from an endpoint of a line to an updated connection point for a block in the second of the two block diagram models, comparing the distance to a pre-defined distance value, extending the line to the updated connection point when the distance is less than the distance value, and displaying the line on the display surface

as part of the display of the second of the two block diagram models following the merging of differences copied from the selected one of the two block diagram models.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffery A. Brier whose telephone number is (571) 272-7656. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 7:30 to 4:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi, can be reached at (571) 272-7664. The fax phone Number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Jeffery A. Brier/
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